

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 172136

FOR BRADSHAW FROM ANDREWS - REPLY FOR EUR/EE ONLY; 3 COPIES

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. ROY WALD REPLACEMENT - IT IS TOO EARLY TO GUESS HOW IT WILL ALL WORK OUT IN REGARD TO THE SCIENCE ATTACHE SLOT. OES TELLS US THAT THE RESOLUTION OF THE MOSCOW AND WARSAW ASSIGNMENTS ARE AT THE TOP OF A LONG LIST OF PROBLEMS. SEVERAL PEOPLE ARE LEAVING THE ATTACHE PROGRAM AND THE SITUATION IS TOUGH IN OTHER AREAS AS WELL. OES IS SCOUTING AROUND FOR POSSIBLE REPLACEMENTS AND OTHER SOLUTIONS, AND DECISIONS ON THE MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS, INCLUDING MOSCOW AND WARSAW, WILL BE HELD UP PENDING PICKERING'S ARRIVAL AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY ABOUT JULY 15.

2. POZNAN PRINCIPAL OFFICER - PER TELLS US PATFLOOD HAS BEEN PANELED IN PRINCIPLE TO A NEW POSITION IN HA. THIS IS "IN PRINCIPLE" BECAUSE POSITION NUMBER AND TIMING ARE STILL
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NOT FINAL, ALTHOUGH THEY ARE EXPECTED TO BECOME SO IMMINENTLY. A LETTER TO PAT ABOUT THIS IS ON ITS WAY FROM PER. HE WILL BE EXPECTED TO REPORT TO WASHINGTON IN EARLY SEPTEMBER.

3. FLOYD RIGGS, HIS WIFE, AND 10 YEAR-OLD SON NOW PLAN TO ARRIVE IN WARSAW ON AUGUST 3 AT 10:00 A.M. VIA THE PAA FLIGHT FROM VIENNA. HE PLANS ON CONSULTATIONS IN WARSAW

UNTIL AUGUST 7, WHEN HE WOULD PROCEED TO POZNAN.

4. VICTOR WYGRY (WARSAW 4514) - MR. WYGRY CALLED JULY 6 TO ASK IF WE HAVE A RESPONSE FROM THE POLES. PLEASE QUERY THEM AT THE NEXT OPPORTUNITY.

5. A PROSPECTIVE US NEWSMAN IN WARSAW - ROBERT WILLIAMS, CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE FEDERAL JUDICIAL CENTER, IS ABOUT TO CONCLUDE ARRANGEMENTS WHEREBY HE WOULD OPEN AN OFFICE IN WARSAW FOR BOTH MCGRAW-HILL AND ROTTERDAM'S ALGEMEEN DAGBLAD. HE HOPES TO GARNER ADDITIONAL STRINGER ASSIGNMENTS AND ALREADY HAS A COMMITMENT FROM ABC RADIO AND A POSSIBLE OFFER FROM THE WASHINGTON POST. (KEEP MUM ON THE LATTER, AS THE POST HAS NOT DEFINITELY DECIDED TO DROP ITS CURRENT STRINGER, ACCORDING TO WILLIAMS. IF THEY DO SO, WILLIAMS THINKS IT WOULD BE BECAUSE HE (WILLIAMS) IS PREPARED TO COVER ALL OF EASTERN EUROPE AND NOT JUST POLAND.)

6. WILLIAMS WOULD ARRIVE PERMANENTLY ON OCTOBER 1, BUT HE FIRST PLANS AN ORIENTATION TRIP TO EUROPE -- ROTTERDAM, VIENNA, WARSAW. HE WOULD BE IN YOUR TOWN THE WEEK OF JULY 17. HE WILL MAKE OWN ARRANGEMENTS THERE AND HOPES FOR HELP FROM A FORMER POLISH EMBASSY OFFICER, WIESLAW BEDNARCZYK (PHONETIC), WITH WHOM HE BECAME ACQUAINTED. CONFIDENTIAL

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WILLIAMS WILL NEVERTHELESS CONTACT DICK VIRDEN FOR AN APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS THE LOCAL SCENE. WE ARE POUCHING YOU ADDITIONAL MATERIAL ABOUT WILLIAMS. ALTHOUGH HE STRUCK US AS SOMEWHAT IMMATURE IN DEMEANOR, WILLIAMS SEEMS TO KNOW WHAT HE IS ABOUT, AND HE MAY HAVE A GOOD THING GOING.

7. POLISH JOURNALISTS TOUR - OUR MESSAGE (STATE 162318) WAS DESIGNED TO HELP MOVE THIS OFF THE DIME. WE THINK USNATO IS BEST FORUM FOR RESOLVING IT, AND USNATO BY ITS 6550 HAS PUT THE BALL BACK IN YOUR COURT. WE PLAN NOTHING FURTHER UNLESS YOU ASK.

7. CALIFANO VISIT - THE POLISH EMBASSY HAS JUST INFORMED US HEALTH MINISTER SLIWINSKI HAS APPROVED THE NOVEMBER 15-18 DATES. WE WILL ADVISE HEW AND HOPE THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER CHANGE.

8. BIEN VISIT - FRB HAS NOW RECEIVED BIEN'S LETTER ACCEPTING CHAIRMAN MILLER'S INVITATION. BIEN WILL ARRIVE AUGUST 20. MILLER WILL ARRANGE A LUNCHEON AND AN OFFICE MEETING. WE WILL WORK WITH THE POLISH EMBASSY ON OTHER MEETINGS AND EVENTS. WE ASSUME BIEN WILL WANT

MEETINGS WITH BOTH GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE FINANCIAL FIGURES IN WASHINGTON, NEW YORK, AND POSSIBLY ELSEWHERE.

9. VISA FACILITATION - DON'T PRESS THE POLES ANY FURTHER ON THIS. THE VISA OFFICE HAS JUST INFORMED US, INCIDENTALLY TO ANOTHER DISCUSSION, THAT THEY HAVE REVIEWED THE BIDDING AND DO NOT THINK IT REALISTIC FOR US TO COMMIT OURSELVES TO A FIVE-DAY TURNAROUND ON DIPLOMATIC AND OFFICIAL VISA APPLICATIONS. IT TAKES ABOUT THAT LONG TO GET THE PAPERWORK TO AND FROM SOME OF THE OTHER AGENCIES INVOLVED, LET ALONE THE FILE CHECKS INVOLVED. VO SAYS 10 TO 15 DAYS WOULD BE MORE LIKE IT, BUT THEY HAVE NOT YET DECIDED DEFINITELY. THEY WILL LET US KNOW SOONEST.

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10. INCIDENTALLY, THE DECISION TO SHIFT THE VISA FUNCTION FROM STATE TO INS PROBABLY MEANS DISTRESS AND TURMOIL IN THE SHORT RUN AND A GRADUAL TIGHTENING FOR THE FUTURE, AS STATE BEGINS TO LOSE DIRECT CONTROL OVER VISA OPERATIONS.

11. THE WARSAW POST REPORT IS FOUR YEARS OLD (LAST MONTH) AND READS RATHER OUT-OF-DATE. DO YOU HAVE PLANS TO UPDATE IT? VANCE

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